

Committee: Economic and Financial Committee (GA2)

Topic: Rebuilding economic resilience in post-coup West African states

Student Officer: Christy Gnoth

Position: Co-chair

Personal Introduction

Esteemed Delegates,

My name is Christy Gnoth, and I'm a 15-year-old student who will be attending the 11th grade at the German School of Athens by the time the 13th Campion School Model United Nations will be taking place. It is my utmost honour to serve as one of your Co-Chairs in the Economic and Financial Committee (GA2) of this year's CSMUN conference, marking my fourth time chairing. I would like to begin by welcoming you to the 13th CS Model United Nations Conference and congratulating you for getting involved in MUN's fascinating world, particularly in the GA2, a very intriguing committee with much to provide you.

Undoubtedly, MUN offers us all a great set of skills that will lead us throughout our lives, such as public speaking, leadership, diplomatic abilities, and teamwork dynamics. Our critical thinking skills develop rapidly by actively participating in MUN conferences. We are faced with complicated issues in the modern world that ought to be tackled immediately. Thus, our knowledge expands immediately. Nevertheless, MUN is not just about the academic advantages. We are allowed to forge new friendships with individuals from around the world and exchange various points of view on ongoing issues, making this experience incredibly exciting!

This year's GA2 session revolves around two topics of paramount importance, one of them being "Rebuilding economic resilience in post-coup West African states". This study guide aims to thoroughly examine this significant issue and assist you in the best way possible during your research. However, I advise you to conduct your own research and not to solely rely on this study guide. In that way, you will be able to gain more insight into your country's point of view. If you



experience any difficulties or need guidance, feel free to contact me at any time via email: christy.gnoth@gmail.com.

I cannot wait to meet you all in October!

Sincerely,
Christy Gnoth

Topic Introduction

In recent years, West African Member States have experienced a wave of military coups, “the sudden, violent overthrow of an existing government by a small group”¹, especially the Sahel countries, such as Niger, Mali, and Burkina Faso. To clarify, since the August 2020 Malian Coup D’État, Central and West Africa have seen at least 10 military coups, undoubtedly exacerbating the already fragile situation in the region.² Niger’s democratically elected government was overthrown on the 26th July 2023, while Burkina Faso experienced two coups in 2022, in January and September.^{3 4} Mali also experienced two coups within a year, namely in August 2020 which ousted President Ibrahim Boubacar Keïta, followed by a “coup within a coup” in May 2021 where Colonel Assimi Goïta orchestrated a second takeover of the country.

Coups d’état in West Africa have had detrimental, long-term consequences, including political instability, economic decline, security deterioration, and severe humanitarian crises. For instance, the sudden transition in political authority dissuades investors from committing to capital, as well as causing businesses to postpone or reduce their operations due to the unpredictable policies of the new administration.⁵ Consequently, the slowdown in economic growth aggravates unemployment

¹ The Editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica. “Coup d’État | Political Intervention.” *Encyclopædia Britannica*, 15 Dec. 2014, www.britannica.com/topic/coup-detat.

² Lawal, Shola. “West Africa’s “Coup Belt”: Did Mali’s 2020 Army Takeover Change the Region?” *Al Jazeera*, Al Jazeera, 27 Aug. 2024, www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/8/27/west-africas-coup-belt-did-malis-2020-army-takeover-change-the-region.

³ AL JAZEERA AND NEWS AGENCIES. “Timeline: A History of Coups in Niger.” [Wwww.aljazeera.com](https://www.aljazeera.com), 27 July 2023, www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/7/27/timeline-a-history-of-coups-in-niger.

⁴ harveygavin. “Lest We Forget: Burkina Faso at a Crossroads against Human Suffering and Instability - Transparency International Defence & Security.” *Transparency International Defence & Security*, 11 Oct. 2024, ti-defence.org/burkina-faso-coup-military-defence-security-corruption-integrity/.

⁵ Yeo, Bema D. “Aftermath of Coup d’État in Africa: Unfolding Unforeseen Outcomes.” *Modern Diplomacy*, 2 Oct. 2023, moderndiplomacy.eu/2023/10/02/aftermath-of-coup-detat-in-africa-unfolding-unforeseen-outcomes/.



and poverty, worsening the living conditions of citizens. Furthermore, the escalation of violence during military seizures significantly undermines fundamental human rights by displacing populations, disrupting essential services, and leading to widespread malnutrition and food insecurity. To illustrate, “In April 2022, the official OCHA/CONASUR count indicated that 1.5 million people were internally displaced, including 285,000 in Djibo. By October 2022, humanitarian organisations estimated that the number of IDPs was now close to 2 million.”⁶

Under present circumstances, regional bodies such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) have attempted to strengthen the preservation of democratic governments by establishing norms against coups and supporting peacekeeping missions, as stated in the ECOWAS Conflict Prevention Framework.⁷ Multiple protocols, such as the African Union's Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance (AfCDEG) and the ECOWAS Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance, explicitly condemn coups and outline steps for restoring constitutional governance, including the suspension of an affected Member State and the imposition of sanctions on coup leaders or regimes. Despite these extensive measures, multiple successful coup-d'états have occurred, such as in Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, and Guinea. Political instability persists due to corruption and ethnic divisions.

To conclude, it is of paramount importance to rebuild economic resilience in post-coup West African states. Military seizures have increased in recent years, undermining democratic institutions and exacerbating citizens' everyday lives. Coup d'états destabilise entire regions, leading to economic decline and security threats. If no immediate action is taken, countries face risks including the worsening of humanitarian crises, economic hardship, and a total collapse of democracy.

⁶ “Coup d’État in Burkina Faso: What Future for the Already Fragile Population? - Burkina Faso | ReliefWeb.” [Reliefweb.int](https://reliefweb.int/),

reliefweb.int/report/burkina-faso/coup-detat-burkina-faso-what-future-already-fragile-population.

⁷ THE ECOWAS CONFLICT PREVENTION FRAMEWORK COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE DES ETATS de L'AFRIQUE de L'OUEST COMUNIDADE ECONÔMICA DOS ESTADOS DA AFRICA OCIDENTAL., https://au.int/sites/default/files/documents/39184-doc-140_the_ecowas_conflict_prevention_framework.pdf



Definition of key concepts

coup-d'état

A coup-d'état is a “sudden defeat of a government through illegal force by a small group, often a military one.”⁸

post-coup

“existing or happening after a political coup (= an illegal, often violent, taking of government power, especially by part of an army)”⁹

West African States

The West African States consist of 16 countries located in the westernmost part of the African continent, namely Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo.¹⁰

Economic Resilience

“Economic resilience is defined as the ability of an economy to recover quickly from a shock or disruption”.¹¹

Fragile States

Fragile States are countries significantly prone to crisis and instability, characterised by weak state legitimacy, leaving them vulnerable to internal or external threats. Such states struggle to fulfil basic

⁸ coup d'État. 25. Juni 2025, dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/coup-d-etat.

⁹ post-coup. 25. June 2025, dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/post-coup#google_vignette.

¹⁰ Fatherland Gazette. “HISTORY of WEST AFRICA (PART 1) - Fatherland Gazette.” *Fatherland Gazette*, 11 Dec. 2019, fatherlandgazette.com/history-of-west-africa-part-1/.

¹¹ *Economic Resilience 101 Leadership in Time of Crisis: A Toolkit for Economic Recovery and Resiliency Economic Recovery and Resiliency Playbook Disaster Supplemental Funding Regional Economic Recovery Coordinators California Disaster Fund Financial Resources Technical Assistance*. https://www.caloes.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Economic-Resilience-101_ADA-Compliant.pdf

functions, including providing necessary public services, maintaining security, and ensuring political stability. Fragile States could potentially collapse entirely.¹²

Sanctions

“Sanctions are economic and political measures that aim to influence the behaviour of a state, a group or individuals. For example, sanctions can be introduced in an attempt to change the policies of a state that threatens international peace and security, or to induce a state to cease systematic violations of human rights.”¹³

Corruption

The term “corruption” is defined as “illegal, bad, or dishonest behaviour, especially by people in positions of power”¹⁴, such as presidents, government officials, or police officers.

Macroeconomic reforms

“Macroeconomic reforms” refer to “comprehensive and radical changes in the functioning of the economic system and its main rules.”¹⁵

¹²Fragile States Index. “What Does State Fragility Mean? | Fragile States Index.” *Fragilestatesindex.org*, 2019, fragilestatesindex.org/frequently-asked-questions/what-does-state-fragility-mean/.

¹³Government Offices of Sweden. “What Are Sanctions?” *Government Offices of Sweden*, 27 Nov. 2023, www.government.se/government-policy/foreign-and-security-policy/international-sanctions/what-are-sanctions/.

¹⁴Cambridge Dictionary. “CORRUPTION | Meaning in the Cambridge English Dictionary.” *Cambridge.org*, 2019, dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/corruption.

¹⁵“What Is Macroeconomic Reforms | IGI Global Scientific Publishing.” *Igi-Global.com*, 2025, www.igi-global.com/dictionary/second-generation-reforms/90715 . Accessed 17 Aug. 2025.



Background Information

Historical importance

According to the Centre for Systematic Peace, 252 successful coups have occurred in countries with more than 500.000 citizens since the end of World War II.¹⁶ More specifically, in West Africa, at least 106 successful military takeovers have been carried out, the largest number globally by region. “Based on data compiled by American researchers Jonathan M Powell and Clayton L Thyne, at least 45 of the 54 nations across the African continent have experienced at least a single coup attempt since 1950.”¹⁷

Historically, coups d'état have significantly influenced the political trajectories of affected countries. They often mark abrupt political changes, including the dethronement of a state's leader, paving the way for military juntas. Worldwide, they have played a critical role in shaping political regimes and governments.

Social and Economic Impact of Coups: Long-term negative effects on a country's economy

According to Gründler, Klaus of the Leibniz Information Centre for Economics, “coups have drastic consequences for economic growth”.¹⁸ Empirical research shows that coups reduce economic growth by about 2-3 percentage points, nearly offsetting normal positive growth rates in GDP per capita. This trend is evident across numerous countries and regions.

Growth is, on average, over one percentage point lower in the year preceding a coup compared to periods of political stability. To clarify, as illustrated in Figures 8 and 9, economic growth declines in the year preceding a coup and falls further during the time of the military seizure. However, shortly afterwards, it recovers to pre-crisis levels. A clear reduction of economic growth is evident during the first 3 years after a coup, only returning to normal levels subsequently.

¹⁶DeSilver, Drew. “Despite Apparent Coup in Zimbabwe, Armed Takeovers Have Become Less Common Worldwide.” *Pew Research Center*, 17 Nov. 2017, www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2017/11/17/egypts-coup-is-first-in-2013-as-takeovers-become-less-common-worldwide/.

¹⁷ Al Jazeera. “Mapping Africa's Coups d'Etat across the Years.” www.aljazeera.com, 30 Aug. 2023, www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/8/30/mapping-africas-coups-detat-across-the-years.

¹⁸ Gründler, Klaus (2020) : Political Stability and Economic Prosperity: Are Coups Bad for Growth?, Beiträge zur Jahrestagung des Vereins für Socialpolitik 2020: Gender Economics, ZBW - Leibniz Information Centre for Economics, Kiel, Hamburg

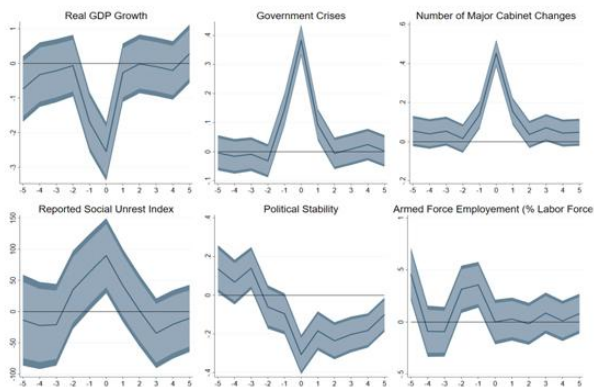


Figure 1: Dynamics before coups¹⁹

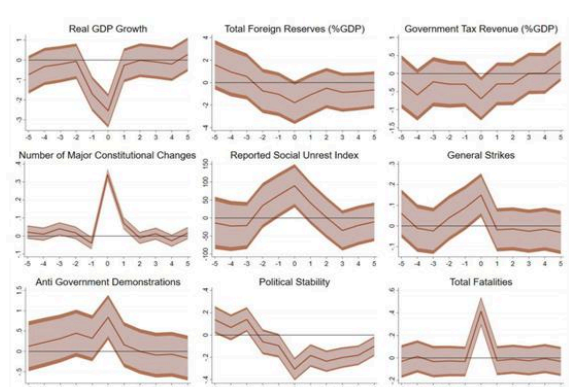


Figure 2: Dynamics around coups²⁰

Humanitarian consequences

Coup d'états frequently result in significant humanitarian repercussions, including increased humanitarian needs and widespread suffering. To clarify, in the aftermath of a coup, there is a sharp increase in violence, looting, and human rights abuses.

For instance, in Burkina Faso, since 2018, violent conflicts, including coups-d'état, have internally displaced over 1.8 million individuals, marking a 62 per cent increase compared to the previous year, 2017. "Out of Burkina Faso's 20 million citizens, one in five Burkinabès requires emergency assistance."²¹ As of today, more than 2.8 million people face food insecurity, a figure expected to rise due to an extended dry season.

Poverty

Countries in which coups occur already tend to suffer from low income, poverty, and economic stagnation, conditions that both contribute to coups and result from them. "Large numbers of Africans continue to struggle to meet their most basic needs. Majorities report going without a cash income (81%), medicine or medical care (66%), and sufficient food (59%), clean water (57%), and

¹⁹Aliona Cebotari, et al. "Political Fragility: Coups d'État and Their Drivers." *IMF Working Papers*, vol. 2024, no. 034, 16 Feb. 2024, www.elibrary.imf.org/view/journals/001/2024/034/article-A001-en.xml

²⁰Aliona Cebotari, et al. "Political Fragility: Coups d'État and Their Drivers." *IMF Working Papers*, vol. 2024, no. 034, 16 Feb. 2024, www.elibrary.imf.org/view/journals/001/2024/034/article-A001-en.xml

²¹After the Coup: Burkina Faso's Humanitarian and Displacement Crisis." *Refugees International*, www.refugeesinternational.org/reports-briefs/after-the-coup-burkina-fasos-humanitarian-and-displacement-crisis/.

cooking fuel (51%) at least once during the previous year”²², Afrobarometer states. In the context of military seizures and violence, poverty worsens markedly. According to UNICEF, in Mali, “poverty rose from 42.5 per cent in 2019 to 44.4 per cent in 2021”²³, following both the 2020 and 2021 Malian coup d’état. Between the two years, there was an increase of 2 per cent. Thus, political and economic stability is disturbed.

Political, Institutional Challenges

Weak governance

Coups D’États in West Africa are deeply connected to weak governance, which is both triggered and exacerbated by such military takeovers. Mali's seizures in 2020 and 2021 prove this statement. To clarify, the 2020 coup occurred following several weeks of widespread protests against the former president, who was under intense pressure regarding accusations that his government was corrupt and that he failed to address an armed rebellion in the country’s north. Additionally, these military clashes have directly undermined the country’s rule of law and have dismantled the electoral process.

Public Distrust

Public Distrust has exacerbated since the coup d’état in 2020, more specifically in Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Guinea, and Gabon. Many citizens have lost faith in their democratically elected government due to corruption, economic downfall, and lack of safety. As a result, state institutions, crucial for protecting citizens and enforcing law and order, are weakened, paving the way for ineffective responses to security threats, such as terrorist attacks, and increased crime rates. Moreover, public dissatisfaction can fuel protests and thus lead to violent clashes with the authorities, further aggravating the situation. According to a Human Rights Watch report regarding the Events of Burkina

²²Dispatch, Afrobarometer, et al. *Decade of Destitution? Severe Lived Poverty Is Surging in Many African Countries*. <https://www.afrobarometer.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/AD943-PAP24-Severe-lived-poverty-is-surfing-in-many-African-countries-Afrobarometer-5feb25.pdf>

²³ *Update on the Context and Situation of Children*, <https://www.unicef.org/media/136186/file/Mali-2022-COAR.pdf>.

Faso in 2024, “An estimated 6,000 civilians died in conflict-related violence between January and August 2024 alone.”²⁴

Recent Military Coups

Malian Coup D'état

In recent years, Mali has been subject to significant political, social, and economic instability, marked by three military seizures and enduring multifaceted security and political challenges. The first one occurred on the 21st March 2012 when Malian soldiers, displeased with poor government handling of the Tuareg rebellion, seized key locations in the capital, Bamako. Led by Captain Amadou Sanogo of the military junta, they formed the National Committee for the Restoration of Democracy and State (CNRDR). This resulted in the ouster of former Malian president Amadou Toumani Touré, who later resigned formally on the 8th of April 2012. Consequently, the coup was widely condemned by the international community, followed by harsh sanctions from Mali's neighbours, the Economic Community of West African States (EOWAS), which suspended Mali's membership.²⁵



Figure 3: 2020 Malian Coup-D'état

Following several attempts at civilian governance, the situation remained unstable. On the 18th August 2020, a second coup took place in the country, which was led by Colonel Assimi Gota. That day, a group of Malian soldiers stormed Bamako in trucks and detained former President Aboubakar Keita. The seizure occurred following several

weeks of widespread protests against him, who was under intense pressure regarding accusations that

his government was corrupt and that he failed to address an armed rebellion in the country's north. After the successful ouster of Keita, Colonel Assimi Goita became the vice-president of Mali and civilian Bah Ndaw as the president. However, violence erupted between the two parties as both

²⁴ Human Rights Watch. “World Report 2025: Rights Trends in Burkina Faso.” *Human Rights Watch*, 20 Dec. 2024, www.hrw.org/world-report/2025/country-chapters/burkina-faso.

²⁵ Wikipedia Contributors. “2012 Malian Coup D'état.” *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 25 May 2019, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2012_Malian_coup_d%27%C3%A9tat.

attempted to gain more influence. On the 24th May of 2021, the President removed key actors of the August coup from the cabinet, which sparked controversy within the government. Later that day, the military detained Ndaw and transferred him to the military base in Kati, after which Assimi Goita declared himself president.²⁶

Figure 3²⁷

Burkina Faso Coup d'état

Burkina Faso experienced two coups d'état in 2022, within 9 months. The initial coup in January 2022, orchestrated by Lieutenant Colonel Paul-Henri Sandaogo Damiba, stemmed from the government's failure to prevent the growing jihadist insurgency in the Sahel. The population of the country was left extremely vulnerable and prone to extremist attacks, resulting.



Figure 4: Captain Ibrahim Traoré²⁸

In the erosion of public trust. The government's leadership was largely frowned upon. On the 23rd January 2022, the former democratically elected president, Roch Kaboré, was dethroned by members of the Burkina Faso Armed Forces.

Half a year later, a second coup occurred on the 30th September 2022, led by Captain Ibrahim Traoré. Together with other members of the armed forces, they overthrew the leaders of the first coup, as there was no progress made regarding the improvement of the security situation. However, rather than fostering stability, the second coup exacerbated the country's instability, intensifying the security crisis and undermining any hope for effective governance. Figures from the Armed Conflict

²⁶ (1) Lawal, S. *West Africa's "coup belt": Did Mali's 2020 army takeover change the region?* Al Jazeera. <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/8/27/west-africas-coup-belt-did-malis-2020-army-takeover-change-the-region>.

²⁷ "Mali Coup Leaders Promise Elections after Keita Overthrow." Al Jazeera, www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/8/20/mali-coup-leaders-promise-elections-after-keita-overthrow.

²⁸

Location and Event Data (ACLED) study show that “4,843 civilians were killed in the two years after September 30th 2022.”²⁹

Date	Description of the event
May 28th 1975	The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) was founded on the 28th May 28 the year 1975, in Lagos, Nigeria, aiming to promote economic integration, cooperation and self-reliance across the region. ³⁰
March 21st 2012	On the 21st March 2012, Malian soldiers, dissatisfied with the government's handling of a rebellion, seized power, ousting their President Amadou Tounami Touré. ³¹
August 18th 2020	The fourth Malian Coup D'état occurred on the morning of the 18th of August 2020 after weeks of ongoing protests. Elements of the Malian Armed Forces began a mutiny, which led to the resignation of former President Ibrahim Boubacar Keïta. ³²
May 24th 2021	“On the night of 24 May 2021, the Malian Army led by Vice President Assimi Goïta captured President Bah N'daw, Prime Minister Moctar Ouane and Minister of Defence

²⁹harveygavin. “Lest We Forget: Burkina Faso at a Crossroads against Human Suffering and Instability - Transparency International Defence & Security.” *Transparency International Defence & Security*, 11 Oct. 2024, ti-defence.org/burkina-faso-coup-military-defence-security-corruption-integrity/.

³⁰ Herpolsheimer, Jens. “The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS): A Region and an Organisation at a Crossroads.” *ISPI*, 3 May 2024, www.ispionline.it/en/publication/the-economic-community-of-west-african-states-ecowas-a-region-and-an-organisation-at-a-crossroads-172641.

³¹ “Mali War.” *Wikipedia*, 19 Jan. 2021, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mali_War.

³² Wikipedia Contributors. “2020 Malian Coup D'état.” *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 23 Feb. 2021, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2020_Malian_coup_d%27%C3%A9tat.

	Souleymane Doucouré.” ³³ , marking the second coup d’état within a single year.
January 23rd 2022	On January 23rd 2022, Burkina Faso experienced a military coup d’état. Rebel soldiers took control of the capital city, Ouagadougou. ³⁴
September 16th 2023	The Alliance of Sahel States (AES), which consists of three West African countries (Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger), was established on the 16th September 2023 as a mutual defence pact. ³⁵
April 19th 2024	Niger’s new military government requested the withdrawal of United States forces, citing sovereignty concerns. ³⁶

Major countries, organisations and alliances

Mali

Mali is a landlocked country located in the region of West Africa that has already experienced five coups d’état, namely in 1968, 1991, 2012, 2020, and 2021. Notably, the two most recent ones occurred within a period of 8 months, indicating political instability within the government. Since these military seizures, Mali has faced significant political and security challenges, which have exacerbated its economic recovery efforts and prospects.

³³Wikipedia Contributors. “2021 Malian Coup D’état.” *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 22 Apr. 2022, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2021_Malian_coup_d%27%C3%A9tat.

³⁴ Wikipedia Contributors. “January 2022 Burkina Faso Coup D’état.” *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 26 July 2025.

³⁵ Wikipedia Contributors. “Alliance of Sahel States.” *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 20 Sept. 2024, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alliance_of_Sahel_States.

³⁶ Burns, Emma. “US Agrees to Withdraw Troops from Niger.” *Jurist.org*, - JURIST - News, 20 May 2024, www.jurist.org/news/2024/05/us-agrees-to-withdraw-troops-from-niger/ . Accessed 20 Aug. 2025.

The country, together with Burkina Faso and Niger, formally withdrew from the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) on the 29th January 2025. They were dissatisfied with the organisation's handling of their internal affairs, particularly regarding the sanctions imposed in response to the coups d'état.

Burkina Faso

Burkina Faso is a landlocked country in West Africa, bordered by Mali to the northwest and Niger to the northeast. Like Mali, the country has experienced recurrent military seizures since its independence on the 5th of August 1960. Most recently, there have been two coups d'état in January and September, within 9 months.

As a result, the country has experienced immense instability, limiting its ability to attempt to recover from abrupt political changes and foster resilience. Burkina Faso remains statistically one of the poorest countries in the whole world. According to the World Bank, “more than 40% of the population lives below the national poverty line”.³⁷

United States of America

The United States of America has significantly contributed to the topic of rebuilding economic resilience in post-coup West African states, including Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger. Its contributions encompass military, diplomatic, economic, and humanitarian efforts.

To clarify, the US has supported bases in Niger to help combat extremist groups, such as the Niger Air Base 201 in Agade, and the Air Base 101 in Niamey. The country has continuously tried to cooperate with the new governments, but has faced significant setbacks instead. Following Niger's military coup on the 26th July 2023, Niger's leaders requested the withdrawal of the US military forces from its territory on April 19th 2024, “emphasising a lack of sovereignty”³⁸. American troops withdrew from the Niger Republic, from Air Base 101 on July 7th, and Air Base 201 on August 5th³⁹ ⁴⁰. This led to a

³⁷ The World Bank. “The World Bank in Burkina Faso.” *World Bank*, 2016, www.worldbank.org/en/country/burkinafaso/overview.

³⁸ admin_cn. “Withdrawal of US Troops from Niger : A Setback for Washington? - IRIS.” *IRIS*, 26 Apr. 2024, www.iris-france.org/en/185945-withdrawal-of-us-troops-from-niger-a-setback-for-washington/.

³⁹ Reuters Staff. “US Military Says It Completes Niger Withdrawal.” *Reuters*, 16 Sept. 2024, www.reuters.com/world/africa/us-military-says-it-completes-niger-withdrawal-2024-09-16/.

⁴⁰ Nwafor. “US Has No Plans to Establish Military Base in Nigeria – AFRICOM General Insists.” *Vanguard News*, 23 Aug. 2024,



redeployment of U.S. personnel to more stable West African countries, such as Côte d'Ivoire, according to Small Wars Journal.⁴¹

Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) was established on the 28th of May 1975 and consists of 12 countries, namely Benin, Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo. Till the 29th January 2025, Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger were part of the organisation, until their military-led government was dissatisfied with their way of combating internal affairs, including the sanctions they were imposed as a result of the military seizures.

The organisation adopted the Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance in 2001 to ameliorate a country's state after a military seizure. To clarify, the Protocol includes mechanisms to address unconstitutional changes in a government and suspend member states where such coups occur. Moreover, ECOWAS imposes immense sanctions after a military coup, as a way of pressuring leaders to ultimately restore constitutional order and abide by the law.

World Bank

The World Bank is an international development organisation, formally known as the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), which was founded in July 1944. The association's mission is "to end extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity on a livable planet"⁴².

It has played a significant role in supporting economic rehabilitation and recovery in West African states after coups d'état. To be more precise, the World Bank has launched Mali's Reconstruction and Economic Recovery Project, intending to "rehabilitate basic infrastructure and restore productive activities in crisis-affected communities"⁴³.

www.vanguardngr.com/2024/08/us-has-no-plans-to-establish-military-base-in-nigeria-africom-general-insists/. Accessed 18 Aug. 2025.

⁴¹ Tchokogoue, James. "Global Fragility Act in Coastal West Africa: Policy Lessons from US Engagement in the Sahel | Small Wars Journal by Arizona State University." *Small Wars Journal by Arizona State University*, 16 June 2025, smallwarsjournal.com/2025/06/16/global-fragility-act-in-coastal-west-africa/. Accessed 18 Aug. 2025.

⁴² World Bank. "What We Do." *World Bank*, 2025, www.worldbank.org/en/what-we-do.

⁴³ World Bank. "What We Do." *World Bank*, 2025, www.worldbank.org/en/what-we-do.



“The project has already reached its PDO with more than 1.4 million beneficiaries (96 percent) out of the overall 1.5 million targeted, 91 percent of local public infrastructure rehabilitated functioning one year post rehabilitation, 91 percent of productive assets rehabilitated utilized for economic activities one year post rehabilitation, and almost reached its target of 1.4 million benefitting from rehabilitated local infrastructure (98 percent)”⁴⁴.

Previous attempts to solve the issue

“Borderless Region” By ECOWAS

Other previous attempts to foster economic resilience in post-coup West African States include the aid of regional partnerships. To clarify, associations, such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), have attempted to create a “borderless region” aimed at increasing trade, investment, and economic cooperation among various member states, following military seizures. As of today, a “borderless region” has not been fully implemented yet. Thus, the African Union launched the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) on the 21st March 2018 to deepen regional economic integration across the African continent, “bringing together the 55 countries of the African Union (AU) and eight (8) Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to create a single market for the continent”.⁴⁵ Through the creation of the AfCFTA, trade drastically increased, boosting continental income significantly.

Implementation of the New Mining Code by the Malian Government, 2023

According to the Journal of Sustainable Development in Africa, macroeconomic efforts “are the use of monetary, fiscal and structural policies to alter the structure of demand and supply in an economy”.⁴⁶ After Mali's coup d'état, the World Bank launched Mali's reconstruction and recovery

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<https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/099210010192226531/pdf/P1444420afe6e704509f6706c20f9ddca06.pdf>

⁴⁵ East African Community. “African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement.” *Wwww.eac.int*, 2025, www.eac.int/trade/international-trade/trade-agreements/african-continental-free-trade-area-afcfta-agreement.

⁴⁶ Ubi, Peter, et al. “Fiscal Deficit, Economic Uncertainty and Macroeconomic Performance in Nigeria.” *Universal Journal of Accounting and Finance*, vol. 9, no. 6, Dec. 2021, pp. 1510–1523, <https://doi.org/10.13189/ujaf.2021.090628>. Accessed 7 Jan. 2022. ,



project aimed at rebuilding economic resilience and fostering productive community activities. To clarify, following the 2020 military seizure of Mali, Colonel Assimi Goita's new government introduced a mining code granting the state the authority to obtain as much as 30% ownership share in newly established mining ventures. This measure intends to enhance revenues from Mali's mining industry. According to dabafinance.com, "Authorities expect the new mining policies to boost annual mining revenues by around \$822 million."⁴⁷ As a result, "Mali's economy grew by 4.5% in 2023 and is expected to maintain this trajectory, with the IMF forecasting growth of 4% this year."⁴⁸

United States Security Council Resolution 2071 (2012)

"The United States Security Council Resolution 2071"⁴⁹ was unanimously adopted on the 12th October 2012, aimed at mandating that an actionable plan for military intervention be made by ECOWAS and the African Union within 45 days. It strongly condemned human rights abuses in northern Mali after the Coup D'état in 2012.

Possible solutions

Strengthen the regulatory framework

In order to rebuild economic resilience in post-coup West African states, strengthening regulatory frameworks is of paramount importance. To clarify, after a military seizure, political change deteriorates the economic state of the affected country. In order to attract investment and facilitate economic stability, regulatory structures must be improved and legal standards must be updated. For instance, Mali's new government has implemented a transparent regulation in 2023, namely Mali's new mining code, as mentioned in the past attempt section, allowing the state of Mali a greater stake in key sectors and economic growth.

<https://jsd-africa.com/Jsda/Vol18No1-Spring16A/PDF/Macroeconomic%20Reforms%20%20Institutions%20and%20Economic%20Performance.Enang%20Udah.pdf>

⁴⁷ Dabafinance. "Key Economic Trends in Post-Coup Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger." *Dabafinance*, 8 June 2024, www.dabafinance.com/en/learn/blogs/key-economic-trends-in-post-coup-burkina-faso-mali-niger. Accessed 18 Aug. 2025

⁴⁸ Dabafinance. "Key Economic Trends in Post-Coup Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger." *Dabafinance*, 8 June 2024, www.dabafinance.com/en/learn/blogs/key-economic-trends-in-post-coup-burkina-faso-mali-niger. Accessed 18 Aug. 2025

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Expanding social protection

Expanding social protection is of paramount importance, regarding the rebuilding of economic resilience, in order to regain public trust. To address key challenges, such as food insecurity, unemployment, and internal displacement of inhabitants, policies must focus on improving immediate access to adequate health services and the creation of jobs. To clarify, social protection protects households from sustaining financial shocks and poverty by stabilising their lifestyle and consumption patterns. Investment in public protection significantly impacts Gross Domestic Product (GDP), especially for Less Economically Developed Countries (LEDs).

Enhance regional risk management.

The enhancement of regional risk management is an essential step for guarding against cross-border shocks. Establishing early warning systems to detect emerging economic, political, and environmental risks across borders is of paramount importance, as it can help regional bodies anticipate risks and act before a crisis escalates. The data accumulated would be shared across borders in real time so as to ensure everyone's awareness of the situation. However, installing and maintaining these warning systems could be expensive, especially for post-coup countries that struggle with ensuring their inhabitants' fundamental human rights. Additionally, economic and legal measures ought to be enforced against coup perpetrators, including severe sanctions, discouraging such disruptions. Sanctions could involve travel bans and trade restrictions. Lastly, cooperative mechanisms must be established, such as the formation of joint crisis funds and reserves, to respond to severe crises that involve multiple member states.

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